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INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Albania

DATE DISTR. 1 November 1948

SUBJECT Disaffection of Albanian Population with
25X1A Greek Guerrillas

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1. vealed the widespread disaffection of the Albanian population toward the Greek guerrillas who have taken refuge in Albania.
2. A severe shortage of food as well as of medical supplies (most of which formerly came from Yugoslavia) has caused a large number of deaths among wounded guerrillas in Albania. In the effort to construct new hospitals, the Albanian Government has imposed another tax on all municipalities and communes of the country. Members of the Albanian Young Communist Organization collect the levies. On the other hand, the Albanian Government has insisted that the Markos forces provide a certain number of animals for slaughter. This demand has been met by the guerrillas through systematic requisitions of cattle and sheep in Epirus and, until recently, in Thessaly.
3. The Albanian population along the frontier from Libohove to Peshkopije resent both the extreme restrictions on their movements and the ever increasing shortages of food caused by the presence of the Markos troops. Particularly hostile to the Communists are members of the Moslem minority of the border region. Both the high command of the guerrilla forces and the Albanian Government are taking precautions to prevent incidents which will increase the dislike of Communism among the population.

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